

30 SEP 1957

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ER 9-7393

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT: Attached Memoranda from the Department of State

1. This memorandum suggests action on the part of the DCI. The requested action is contained in paragraph 4.

2. The attached memoranda prepared by Assistant Secretary of State Andrew H. Berding and his staff regarding the anniversary of the Hungarian uprising were sent to Secretary Dulles for an action decision. After reading them Secretary Dulles returned them to Mr. Berding with the following remarks: (a) "If these recommendations are carried out what will it do for the Hungarian people?" and (b) "I would like to have the views of my brother and his staff on this subject before making a final decision."

3. We have reviewed these memoranda and agree that it would be desirable to have an official U.S. position made public on the occasion of the October 23rd anniversary. However, we think that the approach could be more creative than that developed in the proposed statement for the President. In fact, we think that the statement as drafted could be criticized as merely further merchandizing of hope which we feel is an undesirable thing for the President of the United States to engage in and which, in fact, might be repugnant to a majority of the Hungarian people. We also feel that though the October 23rd date is marked officially and publicly by the United States Government.

4. It is recommended that you authorize us to transmit the attached letter through official channels to the Department of State as our reply to the Secretary.

DOCUMENT NO. _____
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☐
☐ DECLASSIFIED
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S ② 2011
NEXT REVIEW DATE: _____
AUTH: HR 70-2
DATE: 25 MAR 1981 REVIEWER: _____

Desmond Fitzgerald
Chief

Psychological and Paramilitary Staff

Attachments (2)

cc: DDCI

CONCUR: (Signed) FRANK G. WISHER

Deputy Director (Plans)

SEP 30 1957

APPROVED:

1 OCT 1957

DCI SIGNED

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September 12, 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Secretary
THROUGH: S/S
FROM: P - Andrew H. Berding
SUBJECT: Anniversary of the Hungarian Uprising

Discussion:

Apropos of our discussion on Hungary the other day, I suggest that thought be given now to the observance on a world-wide basis of the first anniversary of the Hungarian uprising. The purpose is to keep this issue alive before world public opinion. To obtain maximum effectiveness on this occasion, I believe that official United States participation, of course, should not be overplayed. A brief, dignified message by the President would, however, be most desirable as it would set the tone for activities which might be undertaken by private groups in the United States and private and governmental groups abroad. A suggested message along this line is attached for your consideration (Tab A).

I believe we should select October 23 as the date to observe this anniversary. This was the day the overt revolt began, marked by mass demonstrations, the pulling down of the Stalin statue and fighting with the security police. The other possible date, which is less desirable, would be November 4 which marks the culmination of the suppression of the revolt by the Soviets.

Provided you approve that it is in the United States interest to observe this occasion, the following actions might be taken:

1. A Presidential statement;
2. A statement by Ambassador Lodge;
3. Commemorative services in leading Protestant and Catholic churches in the United States and abroad;
4. Consultation

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4. Consultation with friendly governments likely to cooperate;
5. A round-up of statements by Hungarian refugees settled in the United States, concerning their new lives; USIA would be in a position to prepare this for overseas attention;
6. A television network program based on the anniversary, the kinescope of which could be picked up by USIA and sent abroad.

Recommendation:

- (1) That you approve of the desirability of observing the first anniversary of the Hungarian uprising on October 23, 1957.

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

- (2) That you authorize me to coordinate appropriate activities which might be undertaken on this occasion.

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

- (3) That you sign the attached memorandum to the President enclosing a suggested statement for release on October 23.

Concurrences:

IG -

EUR -

P:ABBerding:RAnderson:emh

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Anniversary of the Hungarian Uprising

The first anniversary of the Hungarian uprising will occur on October 23. This date marks the beginning of the overt revolt, mass demonstrations, conflicts with the security police, and the pulling down of the Stalin statue. The solemn observance of this occasion in the United States and abroad will contribute towards keeping this issue alive before world public opinion, particularly at a time when the General Assembly is in session and might be seized with the Hungarian question.

I am enclosing a suggested statement which you might wish to make on October 23. If you approve, I plan to transmit your statement prior to October 23 to United States officials here and abroad who might be participating in functions commemorating the anniversary.

John Foster Dulles

Enclosure:

Suggested Statement

P:RAnderson:hnh 9/12/57

SUGGESTED STATEMENT

Today marks a solemn occasion. One year ago, on October 23, 1956, the Hungarian people rose against their oppressors. By early November the national uprising had been brutally put down by the Soviets. But the fierce love of freedom which quickened it lives on, as an inspiration to all who possess liberty and cherish it, and to all who seek it.

I ask you, my fellow Americans, on this day to pause and pay tribute in your minds and hearts to the valor of these Hungarians who gave their lives last year, and to the free spirit of the Hungarian people that will never die.

Let us remember the heritage of hard-won liberty that is ours.

Let us rededicate ourselves to the search for a world where there is true peace and justice for all men.

Let us, by every peaceful means, do our part in the quest for a Hungarian nation that is as free as it is brave.

F:BWilkinson:dfs:fc 9/12/57

EUR:GVest:fc 9/13/57

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September 13, 1957

TO: The Secretary
THROUGH: S/S
FROM: IO - Walter N. Walmsley
SUBJECT: Anniversary of the Hungarian Uprising
(Memorandum 9/12/57 from P - Mr. Berding)

IO concurs in the attached memorandum from Mr. Berding regarding the anniversary of the Hungarian uprising, with the following reservations:

(1) We would prefer at this time not to recommend a statement by the President for propaganda purposes, believing this could be done for these purposes by a Departmental statement and one by Ambassador Lodge. There is the probability that a Presidential statement would generate additional pressures to try to do impracticable things about the Hungarian people.

(2) We very seriously question the round-up of statements by Hungarian refugees for broadcasting abroad.

Walter N. Walmsley
Deputy Assistant Secretary

IO:WNVW:msley:hed

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Att. To ER 9-7393

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IN REPLY REFER TO: ☐

MEMORANDUM FOR: ☐

1 OCT 1957

SUBJECT: Attached Memoranda on the subject of the Anniversary of the Hungarian Uprising

1. Identity A requested that Identity B comment personally on the attached memoranda.

2. ☐ agrees that it would be desirable to have an official U.S. public observance on the occasion of the first anniversary of the Hungarian uprising on October 23rd. ☐ agrees that it would be desirable if possible to have a Presidential statement and appropriate commemorative services in the churches of the United States as well as other appropriate activities by American organizations and media which would normally be interested in this occasion. It is suggested that the church observance be on October 27th, the first Sunday after the anniversary. ☐ believes that the tone of any public statements by the President should not in any way imply an official U.S. position which might lead to false hopes. Thus, we suggest that the draft statement for the President be re-cast to provide for a broader purpose than merely a message of hope to the Hungarian people.

3. In our opinion the President's statement should carry the central message that the United States and the West in general sincerely seek solution to the problem of Hungary. This was the concept so well developed by Ambassador Lodge in his presentation on September 11 of the U.S. delegation's position at the 11th General Assembly of the United Nations. ☐ believes that the statement should be designed to call attention to our support of the UN General Assembly resolution on Hungary and the fact that we intend to cooperate with Prince Noyan in his continuing work to seek a solution on behalf of the United Nations on the Hungarian problem. The message might also emphasize the continuing Soviet repression of the Hungarian people in defiance of the resolutions adopted by the over-whelming majority of the United Nations members. ☐ would be prepared to use its assets which are unattributable to the United States Government to produce desirable foreign reaction and support of official U.S. statements in connection with the anniversary. In this context ☐ believes that appropriate statements by Hungarian refugees should be encouraged and should be broadcast over the unofficial radios.

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SUBJECT: Attached Memoranda on the subject of the
Anniversary of the Hungarian Uprising

4. In addition to marking the occasion of the October 23rd anniversary of the Hungarian uprising, [] believes that it is most important to remind the people of the world of the anniversary of the cruel Soviet repression of this uprising on November 4, a repression that still continues today. It is believed if [] concurs that it would be desirable for [] assets to generate wide-spread attention to the November 4 date and the Soviet repression for which it stands. This would be done, of course, without attribution to the United States Government. [] in this campaign would give primary attention to continuing the themes developed by Ambassador Lodge in his General Assembly speech: the details of the Soviet suppression including the illegal trials, the death sentences, the deportations, and the re-creation of slave-labor camps as well as the details of the broken promises made by the Kadar regime to the people of Hungary. It is suggested that the official interest of the United States on this occasion might best be expressed by a sequel speech by Ambassador Lodge.

SIGNED

[]

DDP/PP, []
28 September 1957
Distribution:
Orig & 1 - Addressee
1 - DCI
1 - DDCI
1 - DDP
1 - CPP
1 - PP/ICD []
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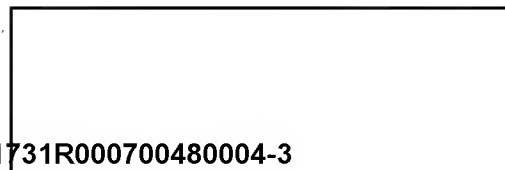
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